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Dated: September 16, 2003 Signature: W.C. Geary III

(William C. Geary III)

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Docket No.: 022956-0074
(PATENT)

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re Patent Application of:
Steven M. Bowman, et al.

Application No.: 10/022,182

Filed: December 14, 2001

For: USE OF REINFORCED FOAM IMPLANTS
WITH ENHANCED INTEGRITY FOR SOFT
TISSUE REPAIR AND REGENERATION

Confirmation No.: 1527

Art Unit: 1615

Examiner: L. Di Nola Baron

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Vex

10-16-03

RESPONSE

Commissioner for Patents
P.O. Box 1450
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Dear Sir:

This is in response to the Office Action mailed August 26, 2003.

The Examiner states in the current Office Action that the application contains claims directed to several allegedly patentably distinct species of the claimed biological component and requests election of single species and subspecies. The Examiner finds that claim 2 is generic.

In response to the request for an election of species, Applicant hereby elects species g, proteins and subspecies 15, collagen. Applicant submits that claims 1-8, 16-23, and 24 read on the elected species. Applicant also notes that claim 24 is a generic claim. The Examiner previously identified claim 2 as the only generic claim.

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Application No.: 10/022,182

Docket No.: 022956-0074

The Examiner is urged to telephone the undersigned attorney for Applicant in the event that such communication is deemed to expedite prosecution of this application.

Dated: September 16, 2003

Respectfully submitted,

By 
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